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SEYMOUR DURST

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FORT NEW AMSTERDAM



(NEW YORK), 1651

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Because it has been said
"Ever'thing comes t' him who waits
Except a loaned book."

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The History
of the
Washington Arch,
in
Washington Square, New York,
including the
Ceremonies of Laying the Corner=Stone
and the Dedication.



Edition de Luxe.

Ford & Barnett, Publishers,
New York.
—
1896.



Preface.

THE names of those who, by their patriotic generosity, gave to the great City of New York the magnificent Monument of which the following history treats, should have gone down to posterity inscribed upon the enduring marble of which it is constructed. But their number being so great as to render this impossible, it was thought that an event of such great historical interest should be commemorated in the hearts and homes of those who contributed to its success by this *Edition de Luxe*, which can be placed in the library of each contributor and handed down from father to son as an evidence of the patriotic impulse of the present generation.

THE PUBLISHERS.

THE WASHINGTON ARCH, which was dedicated May 4th, 1895, with very splendid ceremony, is a political ornament to the city as well as an artistic ornament. It is a good thing to have here and to look at forever. It cost a large sum of money, which was subscribed without a thought of celebrating anything except the man and the idea represented, WASHINGTON and the United States. This was public spirit of the purest kind; and it is no more than justice to say that for this noble Monument the City of New York and the American people are indebted chiefly to the persistent and enthusiastic labors of the Treasurer of the Arch Committee, MR. WILLIAM RHINELANDER STEWART.



Wm R. Stewart

1895.

COMMITTEE ON ERECTION
OF THE
WASHINGTON ARCH,
AT
WASHINGTON SQUARE.

OFFICERS:

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CHAIRMAN.

RICHARD W. GILDER,

SECRETARY.

LOUIS FITZGERALD,

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

WILLIAM R. STEWART,

TREASURER.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

WILLIAM R. STEWART,

TREASURER.

EDWARD COOPER,

CHARLES S. SMITH.

MEMBERS OF THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE ON
ART AND EXHIBITION.

HJALMER H. BOYESEN.
JOHN L. CADWALADER.
WILLIAM A. COFFIN.
WILLIAM E. DODGE.
ALEXANDER W. DRAKE.
GORDON L. FORD.*
RICHARD W. GILDER.
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HENRY G. MARQUAND.
FRANCIS D. MILLET.
OLIVER H. PERRY.
CHARLES H. RUSSELL.
F. HOPKINSON SMITH.
LISPENARD STEWART.
RUTHERFORD STUYVESANT.

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ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.

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EDWARD D. ADAMS.  
JOHN JACOB ASTOR, JR.  
S. D. BABCOCK.  
CLARENCE W. BOWEN.  
GROVER CLEVELAND.  
EDWARD COOPER.  
ROBERT W. DE FOREST.  
LOUIS FITZGERALD.  
RICHARD M. HUNT.

EUGENE KELLY.\*  
LEVI P. MORTON.  
THEODORE W. MYERS.  
JACOB H. SCHIFF.  
CHARLES S. SMITH.  
WILLIAM R. STEWART.  
WILLIAM L. STRONG.  
RUSSELL STURGIS.  
JENKINS VAN SCHAICK.

*\* Deceased.*

## THE WASHINGTON ARCH,

IN WASHINGTON SQUARE, NEW YORK. ERECTED TO  
COMMEMORATE THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE INAUGURATION OF GEORGE WASHINGTON  
AS FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

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**D**URING the early months of the year 1889 much interest was shown by the people of the City of New York in the approaching celebration of the Centennial of the Inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States, April 30, 1789. When it had been decided that the route to be taken by the first procession should be up Broadway from Wall Street to Waverley Place, down Waverley Place, along the north side of Washington Square to Fifth Avenue, and thence up Fifth Avenue to Central Park, with the same route reversed for the second procession, a resident on the Square, desiring to make its decorations a marked feature of the occasion, determined that, if possible, a Triumphal Arch should be erected near the point where the Avenue enters the Square. Accordingly Mr. Stanford White, Architect, a member of the firm of McKim, Mead & White, was requested to pre-

pare designs. Mr. White entered enthusiastically into the project, and undertook, from motives of public spirit, to contribute designs, and to superintend the erection of the Arch without charge.

The neighborhood of Washington Square and lower Fifth Avenue was then, as now, the oldest residential quarter of New York, the tide of change which had swept northward over the city having left it comparatively undisturbed. From long residence and interest in the locality, there had developed something of the feeling of public spirit and local pride, more usually found in smaller municipalities, so that unity of action was more readily attained, it is believed, than could have been secured in the newer quarters of the city. Believing in the existence of this neighborly feeling, the originator of the enterprise, shortly before the designs were completed and the contract signed, drew up and privately circulated from house to house a subscription paper, of which the following is a copy:

“It is proposed to erect a Triumphant Arch, under which the procession in celebration of the Centennial of the Inauguration of President Washington will pass on the 30th of April next.

“Designs for this Arch are in course of preparation by Mr. Stanford White, Architect, who has kindly consented to prepare them, and has offered his services without expense.

“The Arch will be erected in accordance with one of Mr. White’s designs, at such point upon Fifth



WASHINGTON ARCH, (NORTH VIEW.)





Avenue between Washington Square and 14th Street, as he may advise.

“The route of the procession is not, as at first announced, up Broadway to 14th Street, but is up Broadway to Waverley Place, down Waverley Place to Fifth Avenue, and up Fifth Avenue to 59th Street.

“The Arch to be erected will be paid for by voluntary subscriptions, and the design will be selected during this present month in accordance with the amount subscribed.

“Subscriptions will only be sought from residents on Waverley Place, Washington Square, and Fifth Avenue, from the Square to 14th Street.

“You are respectfully invited to subscribe to the fund. Cheques may be sent to order of the undersigned, as Treasurer of the fund, or, if cash be subscribed, it may be handed to the bearer. In either case, it is requested that the name of the subscriber and amount of the subscription be entered in ink on the following subscription list.”

*Dated New York, March, 6th, 1889.*

WM. R. STEWART,

17 WASHINGTON SQUARE.

This appeal elicited generous response, and the names of the subscribers to the fund for the erection of the temporary Triumphal Arch and their residences are here given, as in the future they may have historical interest:

BELKNAP, MRS. A. B., 46 Fifth Avenue.  
BREVOORT HOUSE, 15 Fifth Avenue.  
BUTTERFIELD, DANIEL, 60 Fifth Avenue.  
BUTTERFIELD, MRS., 60 Fifth Avenue.  
CHICKERING, C. F., 5 Fifth Avenue.  
CODDINGTON, MISS MARIA F., 42 Fifth Avenue.  
COOPER, EDWARD, 12 Washington Square.  
CROSS, R. J., 6 Washington Square.  
DANA, PAUL, 1 Fifth Avenue.  
DAVIS, JOHN H., 24 Washington Square.  
DE RHAM, CHARLES, 24 Fifth Avenue.  
DE RHAM, C., JR., 24 Fifth Avenue.  
DE RHAM, MISS, 24 Fifth Avenue.  
DUNCAN, W. BUTLER, 1 Fifth Avenue.  
DWIGHT, THEODORE W., 19 Fifth Avenue.  
DYER, MARY J., 28 Fifth Avenue.  
EDISON UNITED MFG. CO., 65 Fifth Avenue.  
FOSTER, FREDERIC DE P., 23 Fifth Avenue.  
FOSTER, GIRAUD, 23 Fifth Avenue.  
FRANCKLYN, CHARLES G., 15 Washington Square.  
GAUTIER, D. G., 32 Fifth Avenue.  
GAUTIER, J. H., 32 Fifth Avenue.  
GREEN, MRS. JOHN C., 10 Washington Square.  
HUNT, R. M., 2 Washington Square.  
JEWETT, H. J., 1 Washington Square.  
JOHNSTON, JOHN TAYLOR, 8 Fifth Avenue.  
KELLY, EUGENE, JR., 19 Washington Square.  
KENNEDY, MISS R. F., 41 Fifth Avenue.  
LAWTON, JAMES M., 37 Fifth Avenue.  
LAWTON, MRS. JAMES M., 37 Fifth Avenue.  
LIVINGSTON, H. T., 20 Washington Square.  
MACKEY, OSCAR T.  
MAITLAND, ROBERT L., 55 Fifth Avenue.  
MARCH, MRS., 26 Washington Square.

MERRITT, MRS., 37 Fifth Avenue.  
 MINTURN, MRS. JOHN W., 22 Washington Square.  
 MORGAN, MRS. P., 27 Fifth Avenue.  
 NORRIS, JOSEPH P., 36 Washington Square.  
 PARTRIDGE, EDWARD, L., 19 Fifth Avenue.  
 PEARSALL, MISS PHEBE, 3 Waverley Place.  
 PECKHAM, W. M., 31 Fifth Avenue.  
 REED, MRS. JOHN VAN D., 4 Washington Square.  
 REMSEN, MRS. H. R., 44 Fifth Avenue.  
 RHINELANDER, THE MISSES, 14 Washington Square.  
 ROBINSON, E. R., 23 Washington Square.  
 ROBINSON, J. P., 30 Fifth Avenue.  
 ROE, MRS. STEPHEN R., 40 Fifth Avenue.  
 RUNYON, CHARLES, 25 Fifth Avenue.  
 SALLINGER, EDWARD, 64 Fifth Avenue.  
 SICKLES, DANIEL E., 23 Fifth Avenue.  
 STEWART, MRS. LISPENARD, 6 Fifth Avenue.  
 STEWART, LISPENARD, 6 Fifth Avenue.  
 STEWART, WILLIAM R., 17 Washington Square.  
 STRONG, CHARLES E., 16 Fifth Avenue.  
 TAILER, EDWARD N., 11 Washington Square.  
 TALBOT, MRS. C. N., 62 Fifth Avenue.  
 WATERBURY, J. M., 43 Fifth Avenue.  
 WETMORE, MRS. SAMUEL, 15 Waverley Place.  
 WILKES, MISS, 16 Washington Square.  
 WILSON, WILLIAM G., 33 Fifth Avenue.  
 WITHERBEE, FRANK S., 4 Fifth Avenue.  
 WORK, MRS. JOHN C., 10 Fifth Avenue.  
 WORTHINGTON, CHARLES C., 27 Fifth Avenue.

The total amount collected was \$2,765, which sum was sufficient to pay for the structure; a balance of \$66.50 remaining was turned in to the Treasurer of the Washington Arch Fund.

Mr. White prepared and submitted three designs to Mr. Stewart, and they agreed in selecting that which was afterwards followed in the erection of the Arch. Specifications having been prepared and estimates made upon them, the contract was awarded to Joseph Cabus, the promoter of the enterprise being named as party of the first part. Several permits, which it was found necessary to obtain from the municipal authorities, were also given to him.

The Arch was erected on Fifth Avenue, spanning it from curb to curb about 100 feet north of Washington Square, between the residences of Hon. Edward Cooper, formerly Mayor of the City, and the Misses Rhinelander. As to some extent its design suggested that of the marble Arch now standing in the Square, the following description, prepared by the architect at the time, is added :

“The Arch is built entirely of wood and is ornamented with a frieze of garlands and wreaths of laurels in papier maché. It is painted ivory white. As far as possible for so temporary a structure, the design follows the regular type of classic arch. It spans the roadway, and, to avoid obstructing the sidewalk, the piers have not been made quite as wide as the structure would naturally call for in the matter of proportion. The idea has been to carry out a type of architecture which prevailed during colonial and Washington’s own time, and which belongs more naturally to this country than any other; the private residences on both sides



WASHINGTON ARCH, (SOUTH VIEW.)



are somewhat of this order of architecture, and details of both have been reproduced in the Arch.

"The dimensions of the Arch are as follows: Width of archway, 41 feet; height to spring of Arch, 22 feet; height of archway, 43 feet; height to cornice, 55 feet; entire height, inclusive of statue on apex, 71 feet; entire width of Arch, 51 feet."

A statue of General Washington ten feet high stood upon a pedestal on the apex of the Arch, of carved wood, painted; it represented the Father of his Country in Continental uniform, blue dresscoat with brass buttons, buff breeches and riding boots. The right arm was extended by the side, and the left, holding a cocked hat, rested lightly on the hip. This statue is said to have been erected on the Battery in 1792, and the first erected in this city; it certainly bears evidence of great age. At the foot of the statue was a large trophy of American flags, and four large bunches of flags arranged as trophies on the sides of the Arch at its spring contained—alternating with our own national emblem—the flags of those foreign nations from which our population has been mainly recruited by immigration. Upon either keystone perched a fine stuffed specimen of the American bald-headed eagle, the larger of the birds measuring 7 feet 6 inches from tip to tip.

In the adjoining yard of the Misses Rhinelanders a dynamo was erected temporarily, and from this wires were carried to the Arch, which at night was brilliantly illuminated by the Edison incandescent electric light,



several hundred lights being so arranged as to bring out in glittering relief the outlines of the structure and its decorations.

Great pains were taken by those interested in the erection of the Arch to make it as perfect as possible in its decorations, and the owners of residences on either side of it erected large stands covering their court-yards, which were draped in red to give relief to the dead white of the Arch, and so to enhance its effect. The city authorities erected public stands along the north side of Washington Square, and many private stands were built by the owners of houses opposite, so that when the military on the first day of the celebration, leaving Broadway to march down Waverley Place to Fifth Avenue, passed between two rows of decorated stands from University Place to Fifth Avenue, where it passed under the Arch, a wonderfully brilliant effect was produced. The stands continued in solid line to Eighth Street. For several following nights the illumination of the Arch by electricity attracted crowds to the neighborhood and presented a beautiful sight.

By general consent the Washington Triumphal Arch was proclaimed the most artistic and successful structure of a temporary kind ever erected in America for any celebration, and unstinted praise was given to the residents of the neighborhood, who were said to have set a rare and worthy example of public spirit and patriotism. The press of the city with one accord called upon the committee which had charge of the



centennial celebration to take steps to perpetuate the Arch in stone as a monument of the event just celebrated. On May 2d the Centennial Committee on Art and Exhibition recommended to the Committee on Plan and Scope "the formation of a special committee for the purpose of erecting in Washington Square, at the entrance of Fifth Avenue, the Arch designed by Stanford White for the Centennial Celebration of the Inauguration of Washington." May 4th the Committee on Plan and Scope referred the matter back "to the individual members of the Art Committee for them to organize a special committee if they see fit, in order to carry out the object proposed as a permanent recognition of the event commemorated." May 6th the members of the Art and Exhibition Committee and a number of others met and organized a "Committee for the Erection of the Washington Memorial Arch." Henry G. Marquand, Chairman of the Art and Exhibition Committee, was made chairman of the new committee; Gen. Louis Fitzgerald, Vice-Chairman; Richard Watson Gilder, Secretary, and William R. Stewart, Treasurer. Several gentlemen elected members of the committee declined to serve, and the final membership will be given later. At this first meeting of the committee it was decided, by formal resolution, that the Arch should be erected of marble in or near Washington Square, that Mr. Stanford White should design it, and that it should be called the "Washington Memorial Arch." It was further decided to appeal to the

public for \$100,000 with which to build the Arch and for \$50,000 for its decoration.

These resolutions, passed at the first meeting of the committee, were wise and timely, and settled many questions which, if left open to discussion, would have seriously interfered with, if not imperilled the success of the enterprise. The architect, site, and cost, were agreed upon in advance, before appeals for the fund began, and subscriptions were received only in conformity with these resolutions. After the meeting several thousand dollars were subscribed by members of the committee who were present.

On account of many objections to the site determined upon by the committee, it was found difficult to obtain subscriptions with the help of trade or other organizations, and the fund was begun, and mainly completed, by the individual efforts of a few members of the committee, who sought large subscriptions by personal visits and letters. The fund reached \$10,000 on the 10th of May, 1889, \$20,000 on the 14th, \$30,000 on the 21st, and \$40,000 on the 31st. The terrible calamity at Johnstown, in the Conemaugh Valley, by which several hundred people lost their lives by floods, occurred on the 31st of May, and the appeal for the relief of the survivors was recognized by the Arch Committee as paramount to its own objects. From this date until September active work was thus necessarily suspended, and the occurrence of the calamity at this time prevented the speedy completion of



TRIUMPHAL ARCH. ERRECTED 1836.



the fund. The people of New York City during this period contributed a vast sum for the relief of the sufferers by the floods.

With September a strong effort was made by the Treasurer to revive interest in the Arch Fund, and on the 5th of that month it reached \$50,000. At a meeting of the committee, November 1st, 1889, the Treasurer stated that he would be obliged to go abroad for rest at an early day, to be absent for several months, and that he felt it his duty to tender his resignation, which the committee very generously laid upon the table. During his absence the active work of raising the fund was continued from his office, and on the 20th of November it amounted to \$60,000.

By the payment of twenty-five subscriptions, amounting in all to \$1,010, obtained through the public-spirited effort of Mr. Clarence W. Bowen, not then but subsequently a member of the committee, the fund reached \$70,000 on the 8th of February, 1890.

From the inception of the enterprise the "Commercial Advertiser," an evening newspaper, had been foremost of the city press in giving its time and space to its promotion, reserving a certain place in its columns daily for items relating to the Arch Fund, and invariably publishing all subscriptions. The Treasurer's custom was to send daily from his office to the leading newspapers statements of subscriptions received and items of interest. The "Commercial Advertiser" undertook to raise \$1 each from 1,000 women, and completed its

patriotic effort April 5th, 1890, when the names of the 1,000 subscribers were published in one list, at the head of which were the names of Mrs. Grover Cleveland and Mrs. Levi P. Morton.

On the 19th of May the books show that the fund reached \$80,000.

The committee determined that when \$60,000 were subscribed subscriptions should be called in, and active work upon the structure begun. In April, 1890, the contract for preparing the foundations was awarded to David H. King, Jr., the well-known builder of the Pedestal of the Statue of Liberty and of many great commercial and other buildings. On the 30th of April, the first anniversary of the Centennial Celebration, ground was broken by Henry G. Marquand, Chairman of the Committee, without formal ceremony, in the presence of Messrs. Edward Cooper, William E. Dodge, R. W. Gilder, Richard M. Hunt, Eugene Kelly, General Fitzgerald, and others of the committee, Stanford White, the architect, David H. King, Jr., the builder, and J. Hampden Robb, Park Commissioner. Work upon the foundations was pushed, and they were completed within a month.

Imposing ceremonies attended the laying of the corner-stone on Decoration Day, May 30, 1890. The National Guard of the City of New York, commanded by General Fitzgerald, marched between the stands which had been erected. A vast concourse of citizens surrounded the spot. Henry G. Marquand, chairman of



the committee, acted as Master of Ceremonies. Bishop Henry C. Potter opened the exercises by prayer. Following this a hymn, especially written for the occasion by Robert Underwood Johnson, was sung by the Oratorio and other singing societies, in all 200 voices, led by Frank H. Damrosch. Addresses were made by Henry G. Marquand and Waldo Hutchins, representing the Park Commission, and the chorus sang patriotic airs. The oration was then delivered by George William Curtis, who concluded it with a quotation from Washington's Address, delivered in the Constitutional Convention, "Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair. The event is in the hands of God." These words, at Mr. Curtis's suggestion, have been inscribed on the large panel of the attic on the south front of the Arch.

The actual ceremonies of laying the corner-stone were then conducted in accordance with the Masonic ritual by the Grand Lodge. The Rev. Robert Collyer, Grand Chaplain, used in the service the Bible on which Washington took his oath of office, and from it read the chapters of Genesis which, as he explained, had been read at Washington's inauguration. A copper box containing coins, medals, newspapers, and articles relating to the Arch and the committee, was deposited in a receptacle provided for it, the architect, Stanford White, offered the plumb, level and square for testing the stone, which was then partially lowered, Grand Master John W. Vrooman, with a silver trowel, presented to

him by the committee, laid the mortar above the receptacle, and the stone was then lowered into its place. After the stone had been tested and pronounced truly laid, prayer was made by Grand Chaplain Collyer and an address delivered by Grand Master Vrooman. This concluded the ceremonies, which were witnessed from a stand erected by the committee by a number of distinguished persons, including President Cleveland, then ex-President, and Mrs. Cleveland, Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Fairchild, William E. Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Watson Gilder, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cooper, Lispenard Stewart, John Jacob Astor, Jr., Charles H. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Witherbee, Augustus St. Gaudens, Eugene Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Butler Duncan, Theodore W. Myers, Samuel D. Babcock, Daniel Huntington, Donald McNoughton, Bishop Henry C. Potter and Mrs. Potter, Charles S. Smith, William L. Strong, John A. King, Rutherford Stuyvesant, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Lee, and many others.

Several months were spent after the corner-stone had been laid in the perfecting of the final designs for the superstructure of the Arch, in the preparation of specifications, and in tests of marbles submitted from different quarries. The marble finally selected was from the Tuckahoe Quarry, in Westchester County.

The Treasurer of the fund returned from Europe in September, 1890, and at once resumed the task of completing it. He laid the first block of marble, which was set on the 22d day of December, 1890, on the south-





WASHINGTON TRIUMPHAL ARCH,  
ERECTED 1889.  
From a Photograph by CLARENCE O. BIGELOW.



westerly angle of the westerly pier, and, weather permitting, work upon the structure was continued during the Winter. The contract for the Arch, exclusive of the carving upon it, was awarded to David H. King, Jr., who, from public-spirited motives, agreed to build the Arch for cost, waiving his usual commission of ten per cent.; Mr. King gave the contract for the marble to James Sinclair & Co., and for setting it to David Angus; the brick filling of the Arch was done by employees of Mr. King.

The fund reached \$90,000 on the 10th of February, 1891; on the 14th, at the sale of pictures of George I. Seney, the proceeds of two of them, \$1,550, were given to the fund, this being the largest individual subscription to date. The piers of the Arch, which were then about ten feet high, were decorated with flags at half-mast for the funeral procession of General Sherman, which passed the site in February. The growth of the Arch fund was impeded at this time by the raising of a fund of \$50,000 for a statue to General Sherman in this city.

Early in April, when the piers had reached a height of about 25 feet, work upon them was suspended for the construction of a substantial scaffold, 28 feet high, which entirely surrounded both piers, and furnished a covered roadway for the passage of traffic between them; the erection of this scaffolding was ordered by the City Government, and its cost, about \$4,000, was an item which had not entered into the

estimates of the committee. On the completion of this platform, which required a month to build, steam power and derricks were placed upon it, and work upon the structure was more rapidly pushed.

The sum of \$100,000, originally estimated to be sufficient to complete the Arch, without decorations of statuary, was subscribed by the 29th of April, 1891, and two years from the date of the Centennial of Washington's Inauguration the original fund was fully raised and the structure well under way. Revised and final estimates showed that it would be necessary to increase the fund to \$128,000 in order to finish the Arch in accordance with the finally accepted and detailed designs submitted by Mr. White, which were approved at a meeting of the committee on the 6th of May, 1891. This increased cost was partly owing to the greater size of the structure over that at first proposed, and partly to the enrichment of the sculpture. This estimate, it should be remembered, was exclusive of the cost of the groups of statuary not yet designed in detail. It therefore became necessary to continue the work of raising the fund.

The piers were completed and the first springer stone was set on the 19th of May, 1891; the key-stone of the north front was set on the 17th of July, and that on the south front shortly afterward. By December 15th of that year the structure had been carried to a height of 63 feet 6 inches, or 4 feet above the cornice; the soffits, or interior decoration of the

Arch, and the keystones were carved in the marble yards before being set, as was also the cornice; the frieze was carved in place. By the close of the year the structure was carried to the base of the attic cornice, and then covered for the Winter.

The fund reached \$110,000 on the 28th of January, 1892. At a meeting of the committee, on the 13th of March, the inscription was approved for the large panel of the attic on the north front: "To commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States."

M. Ignace Jan Paderewski, the great Polish pianist, had made a tour of the United States during the winter of 1892, and was everywhere enthusiastically received. Desiring to testify his appreciation of the hospitality received in America, he volunteered to give a farewell concert for the benefit of the Arch Fund, and engaged the Metropolitan Opera House for this purpose. Colonel Henry Higginson, of Boston, offered to give the services of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of Arthur Nixisch, conductor, to contribute to the success of this event. It was stated that the eminent pianist intentionally selected the Arch Fund as his beneficiary, as it had a national sentiment. This benefit concert took place on the evening of March 27th, and its gross proceeds, through the public spirited action of the persons named, and Messrs Steinway & Sons, piano manufacturers, who paid all other

expenses, added \$4,500 to the fund, which on March 29th passed \$120,000.

The work of completing the Arch was resumed in March, 1892, the interior chamber roofed, and the cornice of the attic set, with the exception of three stones which were prepared to be put in place with informal ceremony. The stairs were not built at that time in the westerly pier, and access to the roof of the Arch, a height of about 75 feet, could only be had by climbing ladders. For this reason no formal ceremonies could be held. On the 5th of April a group of men, having scaled the ladders, assembled on the roof of the Arch to witness the laying of the last stones. These were three marble blocks of the top course of the attic on the south front, over the easterly end of its middle panel. The first of these was set by Richard Watson Gilder, the secretary of the committee; the second by Stanford White, the architect of the Arch; and the last by William R. Stewart, the originator of the enterprise and treasurer of the fund, who, striking the stone with the mason's mallet, said: "This is the last block of marble of the Washington Arch, of which the first was set December 22d, 1890. I declare that it is well and truly laid. 'Finis coronat opus.'" The initials of the gentlemen who set the stones were cut in the joints. There were present, besides the persons named who laid the stones, James Sinclair and John J. Sinclair, of the firm who supplied the marble; C. Wilson Atkins, representing David H.





TROPHY PANEL, NORTH PIER.





King, Jr., the builder; William Angus and David Angus, of the firm which set the stone; Thomas F. Keating, Hamilton G. King, and Frank Boyer, of the office staff of the treasurer; Clarence L. Cullen, of the "New York Times;" Frederic N. Peck, of the "New York World;" E. G. Burroughs and J. S. Pughe, of the "New York Recorder;" and P. G. Duffy, watchman. The actual work of lowering the last three stones was done under the direction of Adolph Bell, foreman, by Peter McNiven, Dan. Barnetson, William Budge, Ben. Bain, and Michael Millett, stone-setters. A photographer from Pach Brothers was present, and took groups of the Secretary, Treasurer, and Architect, and of all persons assembled on the roof of the structure. The photographs were taken by the second photographer sent, the first being unable from vertigo to ascend the ladder.

At the time the last stone was set the fund amounted to \$121,907.50.

The structural completion of the Arch within less than three years of the inception of the enterprise elicited favorable comment from the press, and was a cause of rejoicing to all who had contributed to accomplish this result.

At the time the committee was constituted as follows :

# COMMITTEE ON ERECTION OF THE WASHINGTON ARCH AT WASHINGTON SQUARE.

## OFFICERS.

HENRY G. MARQUAND, *Chairman.*

LOUIS FITZGERALD, *Vice-chairman.*

RICHARD W. GILDER, *Secretary.*

WILLIAM R. STEWART, *Treasurer.*

## FINANCE COMMITTEE.

WILLIAM R. STEWART, *Treasurer.*

EDWARD COOPER.

CHARLES S. SMITH.

## MEMBERS OF THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE ON ART AND EXHIBITION.

HJALMAR H. BOYESEN,

JOHN L. CADWALADER,

WILLIAM A. COFFIN,

WILLIAM E. DODGE,

ALEXANDER W. DRAKE,

GORDON L. FORD,

RICHARD W. GILDER,

DANIEL HUNTINGTON,

HENRY G. MARQUAND,

FRANCIS D. MILLET,

OLIVER H. PERRY,

CHARLES H. RUSSELL,

F. HOPKINSON SMITH,

LISPENARD STEWART,

RUTHERFORD STUYVESANT.

## ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.

EDWARD D. ADAMS,

JOHN JACOB ASTOR, JR.,

SAMUEL D. BABCOCK,

CLARENCE W. BOWEN,

GROVER CLEVELAND,

EDWARD COOPER,

ROBERT W. DE FOREST,

LOUIS FITZGERALD,

HUGH J. GRANT, Mayor,

RICHARD M. HUNT,

EUGENE KELLY,

LEVI P. MORTON,

THEODORE W. MYERS,

JACOB H. SCHIFF,

CHARLES S. SMITH,

WILLIAM R. STEWART,

WILLIAM L. STRONG,

RUSSELL STURGIS,

JENKINS VAN SCHAICK.

No changes had been made during the three years in the officers or list of members formerly on the Centennial Committee on Art and Exhibition; many changes, however, were made from time to time in the list of additional members; of those named above Messrs. Gordon L. Ford and Eugene Kelly have since died.

The Secretary's minutes show that meetings of the Committee were held May 7th, May 10th, May 14th, May 29th, September 18th, October 2d, and November 1st, 1889; January 16th, April 25th, May 30th and December 2d, 1890. In 1891 the Committee met March 12th, at which meeting the word "memorial" was by resolution omitted from the designation of the Committee and the monument; May 6th, November 30th, and December 14th. In 1892, meetings were held January 12th and March 28th, no other meetings being held until March 15th, 1895. The meetings of 1889 and 1890 were held in various places; subsequently the place of meeting was the office of the Treasurer, 54 William Street.

In April and May of 1892 over \$1,300 were added to the fund through the public-spirited efforts of Mrs. Simon Sternberger, a Hebrew, who, unsolicited, obtained subscriptions to that amount from women of her own race.

The Arch was decorated with flags in honor of the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the tomb of General Grant, on the 27th day of April, 1892, and

again on the 30th of April, the 103d anniversary of the inauguration of President Washington and the third anniversary of the inception of the enterprise for its erection. At this time the unsightly scaffolding which for more than a year surrounded the structure had been taken down. By dint of hard work the last timbers were removed on the 29th of April, and on the third anniversary of the Centennial of 1889 an unobstructed view was first had of the completed Arch. The fund then amounted to \$125,308. The stairs of 110 steps had been built in the westerly pier, the roof completed, and the panels of the attic carved, and the following work remained to be done for the decoration of the structure: Two marble eagles, in process of being carved after designs by Martini, to be put in place, and the four trophy panels and four spandrels to be carved in relief. During the progress of work upon the Arch many photographs of it were taken by the Treasurer, some of which in reduced size are used to illustrate this sketch.

By the 1st day of June, 1892, the fund of \$128,000 for the erection of the Arch was completed by a subscription of \$130 from the members of the office staff of McKim, Mead & White, of which firm the architect, Mr. Stanford White, was a member. Owing to many unforeseen events, it proved to be much more difficult to raise the fund than was at first supposed. The calamity at Johnstown almost killed it, and interest in it was revived only by persistent and painstaking



SPANDREL, (WAR.)  
FROM PLASTER MODEL.



work. The following summary statement shows subscriptions received each month from the opening of the Treasurer's books to the close of the fund:

| MONTH.        | 1889.       | 1890.       | 1891.       | 1892.       |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| January . .   | . . .       | \$4,169 45  | \$3,434 00  | \$2,642 71  |
| February . .  | . . .       | 3,047 56    | 5,640 00    | 3,381 47    |
| March . . .   | . . .       | 3,664 82    | 2,352 00    | 7,988 00    |
| April . . .   | . . .       | 1,096 50    | 3,228 19    | 3,860 50    |
| May . . .     | \$40,067 66 | 6,423 54    | 3,894 96    | 2,692 00    |
| June . . .    | 5,911 45    | 320 00      | 1,575 18    | . . .       |
| July . . .    | 955 25      | 38 50       | 412 47      | . . .       |
| August . . .  | 1,041 85    | . . .       | 9 97        | . . .       |
| September . . | 4,897 25    | 1,000 00    | 15 44       | . . .       |
| October . .   | 4,266 24    | 120 96      | 165 06      | . . .       |
| November . .  | 4,019 40    | 750 00      | 107 34      | . . .       |
| December . .  | 3,474 01    | 325 00      | 1,011 27    | . . .       |
| Totals . .    | \$64,633 11 | \$20,956 33 | \$21,845 88 | \$20,564 68 |

Total . . . . . \$128,000.

Of the funds subscribed, \$127,058 had been paid by April 1, 1895, leaving \$942 unpaid, part of which may still be collected. The construction account shows that \$123,648 had been expended in the actual construction and enrichment of the Arch at this date.

The marble eagles were placed on the keystones, and the trophy panels of the south front carved during the Summer and Autumn of 1892, and the trophy panels of the north front were finished in February, 1893, at which date, to complete the decorations of the structure, only the spandrel panels remained to be sculptured. Owing to the desire of the architect to



obtain the models for the Victories these panels were intended to contain from Mr. William MacMonnies, the well-known pupil of St. Gaudens, who became famous through his great Fountain in the Court of Honor at the Columbian Exhibition in Chicago, and his employment on previous orders, a considerable delay was necessitated. The models arrived from Paris in the Spring of 1894, and the figures were carved from these by Piccirilli and finished in February, 1895. They represent four female figures, winged and floating, masterpieces of relief sculpture. That on the west side of the north front, carrying an olive leaf, represents Peace; that on the east side, carrying a trumpet, represents War. On the west side of the south front the figure represents Fame, and on the east side Prosperity. The architect's designs provide for groups of statuary to be placed on pedestals prepared for them, on the north front. For these as yet no models have been made or estimates of cost received, but Mr. MacMonnies is now making drawings for them. It is hoped that money to pay for these groups can be obtained by the same means that were employed to raise the fund.

By the completion of the carving of the spandrels the Washington Arch is structurally finished, and, therefore, the committee, at a meeting held on March 18th, 1895, resolved to transfer it to the city, with such suitable public ceremonies as could be arranged, on the 30th of April, 1895, being the 106th anniversary of

the Inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States, and the sixth since the inception of the enterprise for its erection.

The practical completion of so important a monument as the Washington Arch within so brief a period is highly creditable to the people of the city of New York, whose subscriptions have paid for it, and should encourage further efforts to enrich our cities with other monuments erected to commemorate great events in our national history. It is doubtful if any other Arch has ever been erected by subscription from private citizens, and it is probable that no undertaking of this character and magnitude has ever been completed in this country in so short a period. Arches abroad have been erected, usually, to record the close of triumphal wars, and have been paid for by national and municipal governments.

The progress of the enterprise has shown rare public spirit in some of those who have aided in its realization. High praise is due the architect, Mr. Stanford White, who has given much time, artistic skill, and energy, to the preparation of numerous designs for the structure, and to the superintendence of its erection, without charge to the fund for his services; also to Mr. David H. King, Jr., the builder, who, by waiving his usual commissions, made the largest individual subscription to the fund. The contractors and their employees seem to have been inspired by the character of the structure to put their best work upon it, and

the Washington Arch has been so built as to testify for ages to the appreciation by this generation of the great event which it was erected to commemorate.

WILLIAM R. STEWART.

*17 Washington Square, April 2d, 1895.*



SPANDREL, (PEACE.)  
FROM PLASTER MODEL.



## DESCRIPTION OF THE ARCH.

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THE Washington Arch is built of white marble from the quarries at Tuckahoe, New York. It consists of a single arch, supporting an entablature and attic, and springing from plain piers, broken, on the north side only, by pedestals designed for the reception of groups of statuary. Above the impost, which is ornamented with a Greek fret, are decorated panels; those on the north side containing in the centre shields bearing the coat of arms, crests and mottoes of General Washington and of the United States, and those on the south the arms of the State and the City of New York. The arms of Washington are described as "Argent, two bars gules, in chief three mullets." A raven over a coronet constitutes the crest, and the motto reads: "Exitus acta probat." The space around these shields is filled with trophies, treated in a purely decorative manner: there being above, on the north side, which is the more elaborate, a wreath of oak encircling a sword hilt and flanked with festoons, clustered banners and insignia of war; below, another wreath of laurel, echoing that above and affixed to cross cannon of the old type. On the south side are again trophies of a

different design, consisting of flags, spears, swords and bows and arrows, grouped above and below the central shields bearing the coats of arms. The spandrels between these panels and the carved arch mouldings are designed to receive allegorical figures. A large and highly decorated keystone marks the culmination of the arch and binds it to the architrave of the main entablature, and this, with the spirited eagle surmounting it and unfolding its wings over the main frieze to the extent of almost eleven feet, may be considered the centre of the "motif." The frieze itself, of which the eagle on either facade forms the central figure, is of unusual depth and is very elaborately adorned with wreaths of laurel in high relief, containing twelve large stars, which, with that on the keystone of the south front, represent the original thirteen States. Between the wreaths and the lower relief are sprays of oak and laurel crossed and enfolding the initial letter W. The smaller stars represent the number of States at the time of erection. The frieze and the bold and severely ornamented cornice above it dominate the rest of the construction, including even the attic above, which, though massive and bearing the chief inscriptions, is kept comparatively in subordination to the main entablature. The inscription incised in Roman letters reads, on the north facade: "To commemorate the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Inauguration of George Washington as First President of the United States," and on the south: "Let us raise a standard to which



the wise and the honest can repair—the event is in the hands of God.”—*Washington*. Another inscription on the architrave below sets forth that the Arch was “Erected by the People of the City of New York.” On the eastern and western panels of the attic are the dates 1789 and 1889, in Roman letters. The great vault, which rises to the height of over 47 feet above the roadway, is ornamented with coffers and rosettes in the usual Roman manner.

In style this monument is distinctly classic, and by this term is meant Roman in contradistinction to the less robust, more fanciful, and more “personal” style of the Renaissance. Although having a discreet flavor of its own, this quality has been kept in abeyance to the conservatism which seems proper in the design of a structure intended to stand for all time and to outlast any local or passing fashions. When brought in close comparison, however, with the triumphal arches of Rome and the Roman Empire, many differences are to be noticed—that of the size of the opening being the most striking, though not the most important. No Arch of antiquity containing but one opening has a span as great as that at New York, the nearest approach to it being the Arch at Aosta, which has a span of about 29 feet 8 inches. The Arch at Salonika has its central opening 36 feet wide, which is the largest span of all Roman Triumphal Arches. This, however, is a construction with three openings. In architectural treatment the Washington

Arch differs from its classical predecessors in being generally lighter, in the prominence of the frieze, in the reduced height of the attic, and lastly, and most important, in the absence of the Orders. Of the few remaining Roman examples of Arches without Orders, perhaps the best known is that of Alcantra.

The following are the dimensions of the Washington Arch:

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Total height . . . . .      | 73 feet 6 inches. |
| Total width . . . . .       | 56 " 10 "         |
| Width of piers . . . . .    | 13 " 5 "          |
| Depth of piers . . . . .    | 17 " 10 "         |
| Width of opening . . . . .  | 30 " 0 "          |
| Height of opening . . . . . | 47 " 9 "          |

STANFORD WHITE.

*1 West 20th St., New York.*



ARCH IN PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION



LAYING THE CORNER-STONE OF THE ARCH,  
MAY 30, 1890.

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PROGRAMME.

1. Arrival of Memorial Arch Committee, escorted by  
the First Brigade, N. G., S. N. Y.,  
BRIGADIER GENERAL LOUIS FITZGERALD, Commanding.
2. Prayer, . . . RIGHT REV. HENRY C. POTTER.
3. Hymn, . . . ROBERT UNDERWOOD JOHNSON.  
ARRANGED FROM HAYDN.  
Chorus conducted by FRANK H. DAMROSCH.
4. Address, . . . . HENRY G. MARQUAND,  
Chairman of the Washington Memorial Arch Committee.
5. Address, . . . . WALDO HUTCHINS.
6. Address, . . . . GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.
7. Laying the Corner-Stone, . by JOHN W. VROOMAN,  
Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.
8. Hymn, "America," . . . . CHORUS.

## CEREMONIES.

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**U**NDER the wide-spreading branches of the two venerable elms in Washington Square, just opposite the entrance to Fifth Avenue, was laid the corner-stone of the Washington Memorial Arch.

Around the square block of granite were grouped the officers of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York, and it was by the beautiful ritual of their order that the stone was laid.

The opening of the exercises followed the arrival in Washington Square of the First Brigade, National Guard, State of New York, which acted as escort to the Arch Committee and their distinguished guests.

The cheers that greeted the arrival of the military were repeated with spirited cordiality when the multitude caught sight of ex-President Cleveland in the carriage with Chairman Marquand, Bishop Potter and George William Curtis. Mr. Cleveland took a seat near his wife, who, with ex-Secretary and Mrs. Charles S. Fairchild, had arrived at the stand a few minutes before. Seated near the speakers' box, were Park Commissioners Waldo Hutchins, J. Hampden Robb and M. C. Borden; Samuel D. Babcock, Lisenard Stewart, Richard Watson Gilder, Hjalmar H. Boyesen, Robert W. DeForest, Mr. and Mrs. Butler Duncan, Senator McNaughton, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Lee, Mrs. Paul Dana,

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Witherbee, Edward N. Tailer, Clarence Buel, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Vrooman, Wheelock H. Parmelee, of Jersey City, and George McGowen, a veteran Mason from Palmyra.

Soon after 11 o'clock Bishop Potter invoked the Divine blessing upon the Arch, and the following hymn, specially written for the occasion by Robert Underwood Johnson, was sung by members of the Oratorio Society, led by Frank H. Damrosch:

#### HYMN.

Composed for the occasion by

ROBERT UNDERWOOD JOHNSON.

Praise to Thee, O God of Freedom;  
Praise to Thee, O God of Law;  
Thee, the goal of Israel's dreaming—  
Thee, the flame that Moses saw.  
Light of every patriot dungeon,  
Home of exile, hope of slave;  
Loved by just, and feared by tyrant,  
Comrade of the true and brave.

Would we pray for new defenders,  
Thou art with us, e'er we call;  
Thou wilt find new ranks of heroes  
For the heroes yet to fall.  
Back we look across the ages,  
Forward Thou beyond the sun;  
Yet no greater gift we ask Thee  
Than another Washington.



Mr. Henry G. Marquand, Chairman, then spoke as follows:

ADDRESS OF MR. HENRY G. MARQUAND,

Chairman of the Arch Committee.

"The service which calls us together to-day signifies that the spark of patriotism has not been quenched in New York; that, amid the pressure of commercial activity and the idolatry of money in our times, there are thousands who can turn their thoughts to the past with gratitude and unite to set up a monument which shall be historical and instructive and prove a proper expression for their feeling of civic pride.

"It signifies also the beginning of a new and pure taste in the art of architecture. It signifies that it is more desirable to rely on a popular movement in useful and educational enterprise, than to trust the impulses of a few munificent givers.

"The spot has been aptly chosen, and not a valid objection can be urged against it. It is true some one has remarked that 'the neighborhood in a few years will be all tenement houses.' Even should this prove true, no stronger reason could be given for the Arch being placed there. Have the occupants of tenement houses no sense of beauty? Have they no patriotism? Have they no right to good architecture? Happily there is no monopoly of the appreciation of things that are excellent any more than there is of fresh air, and



SETTING THE FIRST BLOCK OF MARBLE.



THE EASTERLY PIER RISING FROM THE PLATFORM.



in our mind's eye we can see many a family who cannot afford to spend ten cents to go to the park, taking great pleasure under the shadow of this Arch.

"This is the Arch of peace and good-will to men. It will bring the rich and poor together in one common bond of patriotic feeling, and prove a poem in stone for our fellow-citizens, for all time. To the city authorities and the Park Commissioners the committee is greatly indebted for their liberal encouragement and assistance in this public work."

#### ADDRESS OF THE HON. WALDO HUTCHINS.

Hon. Mr. Hutchins, responding in behalf of the Park Board, expressed an earnest interest in the Arch project. He said that the structure was raised to perpetuate the memory of the first step in the great experiment, momentous to mankind, of government by the people and for the people. It will stand forever an arch of triumph—not of military triumph and glory, but of an undying principle.

"The enemies that threaten our institutions to-day," continued Mr. Hutchins, "are very different from those uncouth hordes that rushed onward beneath Rome's arches. But are they the less dangerous because they are enemies already within our gates? It means much to each of us that we, to-day, are given the power to shape the destinies of this great City, State and Nation—aye, the destiny of mankind for endless ages.

"It is not enough that we vote once in four years,

no, nor every year. It is not enough that we complain that politics are corrupt and our representatives too often incompetent for the high trust reposed in them. We must change all this—aye, and quickly, too—if our Arch is to look, in the future, upon such scenes as crown the past of our national existence. We believe that the future will prove as bright as the past, but it rests with us, and each of us, to say whether that hope will prove but an *ignis fatuus*, or a certainty as solid and enduring as this stone we place to day.”

#### ADDRESS BY GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.

The introduction of Mr. George William Curtis as the orator of the day, elicited hearty applause. Following is the text of his address:

This is a day of proud and tender memories. “With malice toward none, and charity for all,” it commemorates the triumph of American patriotism and the assured integrity of the American Union. Its associations blend naturally with those of the Revolution. The garlanded graves of the boys in blue recall the memory of the old Continentals. When a soldier of New England, in the war for the Union, was marching through New York to the front, and was asked from what place he came, still keeping step to the drum-beat, he answered, “From Bunker Hill! from Bunker Hill!” When Theodore Winthrop fell, we said, Joseph Warren dies again for his country. The march of Sherman to the sea echoes the tread of Ethan Allen marching to

Ticonderoga and demanding its surrender, as Sherman would have demanded it, in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress. To hear Paul Jones on his shattered ship, answering the British captain's summons to yield, by shouting that he had not yet begun to fight, is to see our Farragut, in the fiery storm of battle, lashed to the rigging of the Hartford—

"The Sea King of the Sovereign West,  
Who made his mast a throne."

We cannot speak of Grant, at Appomattox, but we remember the crowning mercy at Yorktown. We cannot mention Abraham Lincoln, but we think of George Washington.

What day in the year could be more fitting than the day consecrated by such memories on which to lay the corner-stone of a monument which shall recall alike the beginning of the Union and the glory of its greatest citizen? Never before could this duty have been performed with greater joy and gratitude, because now the National Union, the great result of the Revolution, and the devotion of Washington, has been tried by fire, and its dross is burned away. Whether the flowers fall to-day upon the graves of the blue or the gray, they fall on the dust of Americans. As nothing but American valor could have hoped successfully to assail the Union, so nothing but American valor could have maintained it.

Thank God! whatever colors we may have worn

in the past, to-day the sun shines upon a nation which is all true blue.

#### NEW YORK'S HISTORIC RENOWN.

In beginning this memorial work, if New York is justly proud, she does not forget that all the American cities of the Revolution have their distinctive patriotic renown. In Boston was rocked the cradle of liberty. In Philadelphia independence was declared and the Constitution adopted. In Baltimore sat the Continental Congress, when it was driven from Philadelphia, and in Charleston Harbor the great fleet of Sir Peter Parker was dispersed and destroyed. But New York was the scene of the last act of the Revolution, and of the opening drama of Constitutional Union. In New York the flag of England was lowered. From these shores the proud sovereignty of Great Britain sailed away. Here the first Congress of the United States assembled. Here the first President was inaugurated, and here the National Government of the Union began.

From the day—two hundred and eighty-one years ago—when Hendrik Hudson first saw the island on which the city stands, to the present hour, these closely related events are by far the greatest and most momentous in the annals of New York. Until now the part taken in them by the city has wanted a monument. Henceforth the monument that we raise will tell the glorious story.

In older lands monumental arches and columns of victory celebrate territorial conquest, personal ambition



and the armed march of empire. But in this younger land of liberty and law, where the army is but a policeman and the navy a watchman of the coast, we build an arch of peace, the symbol of the Republic in which the guaranteed right of every citizen is the security of the Commonwealth, and whose first Chief Magistrate is the perpetual illustration and inspiration of American citizenship. It is him especially, the dominating figure of his time, the individual personal force that has so largely molded our history—him who refused the crown and made the Constitution live and move, who found his country a cluster of dependent colonies and left it an independent nation, that this monument especially commemorates.

That in the perilous tumult of the time, the jealous clash of doubtful communities, and the hot conflict of selfish interests and passions, the Constitution should have been harmoniously drawn and peacefully ratified, was in itself a miracle. Against probability, despite apprehension, beyond hope, so much was achieved. But still the great question remained. There was the potential nation, the aspirations of liberty, the hopes of humanity hidden within it. There lay the statue completely wrought. Should it lie there like those huge Egyptian columns that were quarried but never raised? Who should touch it with the vital spark? Where was the personal power, so sovereign, so calm, so pure, so acknowledged that, like the blessed night which stilled the raging waters of the sea, it

should pacify the weltering passions of a continent and, raising the motionless form of the nation, send it, alive, indomitable, resistless, upon its radiant and beneficent way?

WASHINGTON'S SERVICE TO MANKIND.

We always gladly concede that Washington was good, but we are not always so sure that he was great. But a man's greatness is measured by his service to mankind. If without ambition and without a crime, righteously to lead a people to independence through a righteous war; then, without precedent and amid vast and incalculable hostile forces to organize their government and establish in every department the fundamental principles of the policy which has resulted in marvelous national power and prosperity and untold services to liberty throughout the world, and to do all this without suspicion or reproach, with perfect dignity and sublime repose—if this be greatness, do you find it more in Alexander or Pericles, Cæsar or Alfred, in Charlemagne or Napoleon Bonaparte, or in George Washington? As this majestic arch will stand here through the long succession of years in the all-revealing light of day, visible at every point and at every point exquisitely rounded and complete, so in the searching light of history stands Washington, strong, simple, symmetrical, supreme, beloved by a filial nation, revered by a grateful world.

To the memory of such a character and of such events we dedicate this monument. But, fellow-citizens,

to what does this monument dedicate us? Arching this thronged highway of the city, bending in silent benediction over the ceaseless flood of multitudinous life which pours beneath, what will it say to the endless procession of Washington's fellow-countrymen? What is the voice which, by erecting this monument, we make our own? In his eulogy upon Washington, Gouverneur Morris said, that as the Constitutional Convention was about to organize, when success seemed hopeless and despair suggested fatal compromise, Washington said: 'If to please the people we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterward defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair—the event is in the hands of God.'

There spoke the good genius of America. If any words were to be inscribed upon this arch, these words of Washington would be apples of gold in pictures of silver.

What he said to the convention he says to us. It is the voice of the heroic spirit which in council and in the field has made and alone will preserve our America. It is the voice that will speak from this memorial arch to all coming generations of Americans.

Whatever may betide, whatever war, foreign or domestic, may threaten, whatever specious sophistry may assail the political conscience of the country, or bribery of place or money corrupt its political action, above the roar of the mob and the insidious clamor of the demagogue, the voice of Washington will still be

the voice of American patriotism and manly honor—  
“Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest  
can repair—the event is in the hands of God!”

#### THE MASONIC CEREMONY.

At the close of Mr. Curtis's address, the direction of the further ceremonies was turned over by Chairman Marquand to John W. Vrooman, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, who formally proclaimed that the corner-stone of the Arch would then and there be laid in accordance with the ancient rites of Masonry.

Mr. Marquand thereupon presented the Grand Master with a beautiful silver trowel suitably inscribed. The following officers of the Grand Lodge then took their places around the stone: John W. Vrooman, Grand Master; William Sherer, Deputy Grand Master; F. A. Burnham, Senior Grand Warden; E. B. Harper, Junior Grand Warden; John J. Gorman, Grand Treasurer; E. M. L. Ehlers, Grand Secretary; F. W. Morris, Senior Grand Deacon; Edward B. Price, Junior Grand Deacon; William W. Wallace, Grand Sword Bearer; John G. Janeway, Grand Standard Bearer; William C. Prescott, Grand Marshal.

The Rev. Robert Collyer, Grand Chaplain, then arose in the speakers' box, and lifting into plain sight of the multitude, a large open book, explained that he held in his hand the Bible upon which George Washington took the oath of office as the first President of



SETTING THE FIRST SPRINGER STONE.



THE PIERS AND THE PLATFORM.



the United States. The book was then, and is now, the property of St. John's Lodge of Masons in this city. "It was upon this page," said the white-haired clergyman, glancing down upon the open book, "that Washington is said to have placed his hand while taking that historic oath. It contains portions of the forty-ninth and fiftieth chapters of the Book of Genesis." Dr. Collyer read a few verses from those chapters and then uttered a brief prayer.

The Masonic ritual proceeded. The small copper box, with its collection of medals and coins and the records of the event commemorated, stood ready to be deposited in the heart of the great granite block.

Grand Treasurer Gorman announced the contents of the copper box to be deposited in the stone as follows:

The St. Gaudens Washington Centennial medal, bearing the date May 30, 1889.

A Souvenir of the Washington Centennial celebration of 1889, with designs by Blashfield and Low.

A Catalogue of the Centennial Loan Exhibition, 1889, with portraits and relics.

A Souvenir of the Committee on States of the Centennial celebration.

Invitations, tickets and circulars of the various committees on the Centennial celebration of 1889.

Silver, nickel and copper United States coins of 1889.

A United States silver coin of 1799.



A Souvenir of the Centennial Judiciary banquet,  
1889.

A copy of the Constitution of the Society of the  
Sons of the Revolution.

A copy of the Constitution of the St. Nicholas Club.

The directory of the New York Board of Education.

A list of the officers of the Grand Lodge, F. and A. M.,  
of the State of New York.

A subscription blank for the Washington Memorial  
Arch.

Newspapers of New York of the mornings of April 27th  
and 29th, 1889, and May 29th and 30th, 1890.

The personal card of William Rhinelanders Stewart, the  
leading promoter of the Arch project.

The cards of the reporters present.

A silver Dollar sent by Vice-President Morton.

The Grand Treasurer further stated that one coin,  
a silver Dollar, and the autographs of President Harrison  
and Vice-President Morton, contributed by a lady,  
had been received after the box was sealed, and therefore  
would be placed in the aperture beneath the box.

The usual test was then applied, the box was  
inserted in the aperture provided for it, and the  
heavy stone was lowered into its bed of mortar.

The impressive test and consecration of the corner  
stone followed. Stanford White, the designer and  
architect of the Memorial Arch, handed to Grand Master  
Vrooman the implements of his Craft—the square,  
the level and the plumb. Each implement was applied

to the stone by the proper officer of the Grand Lodge, and the stone was reported to be of proper form.

The golden horn was then produced and Deputy Grand Master Sherer poured upon the imbedded stone a bit of ground corn, emblematic of goodness and plenty. Wine and oil from the silver chalices were next poured upon the stone to symbolize joy and peace. The formal surrendering of the stock into the keeping of the architect ended the ceremonies.

Grand Master Vrooman then delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY JOHN W. VROOMAN,

Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

Among these illustrious patrons, the revered and honored name of Washington appears upon the page of history as the ideal man and Mason.

I will briefly refer to him as a member of our Fraternity, leaving his civil and military career to the distinguished orators of the day.

Official records inform us that Washington was made a Mason in Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, on the 4th day of November, 1752, at the "mature age" of twenty years, while serving as an adjutant-general in the British Army. He was chosen some years after Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge, No. 22, receiving his commission from Grand Master Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia. The active military life of Washington as Commander-in-Chief seemed to inspire

active Masonic labor. He encouraged military lodges and frequently participated in their work. It was upon one of these occasions that he made General Lafayette a Freemason.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia in the early days of its organization elected Washington as its Grand Master; not being eligible at the time, he was compelled to decline the honor.

If time would permit we would gladly recall his unceasing love and loyalty to the Craft, as evidenced by his Masonic visitations, letters and addresses.

On the 18th day of September, 1793, George Washington, President of the United States, acting as Grand Master, laid, with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, the corner-stone of the Capitol of this great Republic.

On the 4th day of July, 1848, the Grand Master of Masons of the District of Columbia laid the corner-stone of that mighty monument at Washington which is the wonder and admiration of a civilized world; and on the 21st day of February, 1885, it was dedicated by the Grand Master of that jurisdiction, in presence of the President and Congress of the United States.

It is, therefore, most fitting that the corner-stone of this Washington Memorial Arch should be laid with Masonic ceremonies, thus following a long line of precedents, and affording the Fraternity an opportunity to once more give public evidence of their loving remembrance of a distinguished brother, and of their "loyalty to the government in which they live."

The ceremony before us—the erection of this monumental arch as an enduring token of the lasting memory of an appreciative and affectionate people—vividly recalls the wonderful Centennial celebration of a year ago, which made this occasion possible.

The Masonic Brotherhood of the Empire State was deeply interested in that great demonstration—doubly interested because the central figures in that historic inauguration were in the forefront of our beloved Institution, and among the most talented and illustrious men and Masons of that or any other age.

There stood George Washington, the pride of his countrymen, the beloved of his brethren, awaiting the oath of office.

Then appeared Robert R. Livingston, the Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, who, as Chancellor of this State, administered the oath of office to Washington. Most Worshipful Brother Livingston was one of the ablest statesmen and jurists this country ever produced, and our honored Grand Master for sixteen years.

A valuable aid in furthering the success of that inauguration day was Jacob Morton, Chief of Staff, who was at the time Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York. Most Worshipful Brother Morton, a brave and accomplished military officer during the Revolution, held the office of Grand Master for five years.

Standing there as witnesses to the impressive inauguration of the first President were many of the

signers of the immortal Declaration of Independence. Do you wonder that the Declaration proclaimed Freedom when you consider the great fact that fifty-two of the fifty-six signers were Freemasons?

A worthy successor to the honors of the Brethren just mentioned was found in the person of DeWitt Clinton, one of the renowned Governors of this State, who held the office of Grand Master for fourteen years.

During the war of 1812, DeWitt Clinton, Grand Master of Masons, convened a Grand Lodge of Emergency on the first day of September, 1814, in this city, for the sole purpose of volunteering for Government duty, and the Brethren under his leadership "were assigned by the Committee of Defence for receiving the services of the Craft on the fortifications at Brooklyn, pursuant to resolution, and they diligently labored through the day." One week later they again volunteered their services "on the fortifications erecting on Brooklyn Heights, and more especially there as one of the forts had, in honor of the Craft, been called Fort Masonic."

The history of Freemasonry in this State is therefore coeval with the history of our National Government

Then, as now, Freemasons obeyed the teachings "to be true to your Government and just to your country, yielding obedience to the laws which afford you protection."

The wise and patriotic administration of Grand Master Clinton was followed by Daniel D. Tompkins,

Governor of this State, Vice-President of the United States, and also the honored Grand Master of Masons for several years.

These and other eminent Craftsmen, leaders in civil as well as Masonic affairs, inspired confidence in the plan and purpose of our Institution, elevated its character, developing its growth and usefulness to such an extent, that at the present time it commands the respect and admiration of all mankind.

Permit me, in passing, to make brief allusion to another matter of historic interest. The Holy Bible borne to-day in the Grand Lodge procession, and now before you, is the property of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, A. Y. M., of the city of New York, and has been jealously guarded by that noble band of brethren for more than one hundred years. Upon this sacred volume George Washington took the oath of office as first President of this Nation.

It is a part of our unwritten history that as the moment approached for the oath to be administered no Bible was at hand, nor could one be secured in the building. Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, as Grand Master, knew that every Masonic lodge-room contained a copy of the Holy Scriptures. He remembered that the Chief of Staff, Jacob Morton, was Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and that the lodge-room was near by. A word to Morton; a hastening to the lodge-room; a return with the Holy Bible; and without seeming delay the oath was taken. Thank



God that the Great Light in Masonry must always have honorable place in every lodge-room!

One more brief allusion to a matter of similar interest. This medallion, accompanied by an autograph letter (the property of the Grand Lodge of New York), is said to possess the best likeness of Washington now in existence; it also contains a lock of his hair, and was presented by him in June, 1783, to Major Billings, a member of his staff. At that time Major Billings was Worshipful Master of a lodge located at or near Newburgh and had frequently received General Washington as a visitor.

A gavel, which I had hoped to use upon this eventful occasion, but an unforeseen circumstance has prevented, was expressly prepared for presentation to Washington, used by him as President, and also as acting Grand Master of Masons in laying the corner-stone of the Capitol of the United States.

After the ceremonies he presented it to Potomac Lodge, No. 9, F. and A. M., District of Columbia, and it has been carefully guarded by that lodge as a precious treasure since that time.

It was used by the Grand Master in laying the corner-stone of the great monument at Washington; also at the laying of the corner-stone and dedication of the equestrian statue of Washington at the National Capital. It was likewise used at the laying of the corner-stone of the Yorktown Monument, and upon many other occasions in laying the corner-stones of public





MR. STEWART, MR. WHITE AND MR. GILDER.



A SPRINGER STONE,  
AND ADOLPH BELL, FOREMAN.



buildings and monuments in several States of the Union.

Fitting it would be to make the present ceremony the more interesting and memorable by using that emblem of authority once wielded by him whose memory we hold sacred and this day further perpetuate.

There are now in existence twelve different medals which were struck, in the early days of the Republic, to commemorate the Masonic virtues of Washington.

At the close of his earthly labors, the lodge over which he presided as its first Master buried him with Masonic honors.

I now conclude this hasty sketch by strongly commending to the Craft the following beautiful words of Washington, spoken while President of the United States.

Replying to an address from some Rhode Island Brethren, he said: "Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society, and to be considered by them as a deserving brother."

To the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts he said: "To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy the benevolent design of a Masonic institution, and it is most fervently to be wished that the conduct of every member of the Fraternity, as well as those publications that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the great object of

Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.”

We are assembled here to-day in the presence of this vast audience to perpetuate the memory of a man who left on record such inspired words of wisdom, and while we build this Memorial Arch, which, we pray God, may be as enduring as the granite itself, we nevertheless firmly believe that the greater monument of Washington's pure life, valiant deeds, and fraternal advice will be erected in the hearts of a grateful people, to remain spotless and perfect forever.

At the conclusion of the Grand Master's address, the Grand Marshal presented architect White to the Grand Master, and the latter formally pronounced the corner-stone laid.

The exercises closed with the singing of “America” by the chorus, all the spectators joining in the air, and after the benediction the company dispersed.

# DEDICATION CEREMONIES

HELD MAY 4, 1895,

TO CELEBRATE THE STRUCTURAL COMPLETION OF THE

## WASHINGTON ARCH,

AND FOR ITS TRANSFER TO THE CITY OF NEW YORK BY THE  
COMMITTEE FORMED IN 1889 FOR ITS ERECTION.

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These Ceremonies, which were to have taken place April 29th, were deferred until May 4th, on account of inclement weather.

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### COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.

HENRY G. MARQUAND, Chairman.

WILLIAM R. STEWART, Sec'y,

GEN. LOUIS FITZGERALD,

RICHARD W. GILDER,

CHARLES STEWART SMITH.

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### AIDS ON THE OCCASION.

STANFORD WHITE,

CHARLES H. RUSSELL,

LISPENARD STEWART,

CLARENCE W. BOWEN.

THE ceremonies on the stand began upon the arrival of Governor Morton, who was escorted to the Arch in Washington Square by the First Brigade of the National Guard, and by the Naval Reserve. The Governor arrived at 3.45 P.M.

I. The Right Reverend Henry C. Potter, Bishop of New York, delivered the invocation.

II. General Horace Porter made the oration.

III. Mr. Henry G. Marquand, Chairman of the Committee on Erection of the Washington Arch, delivered a brief address.

IV. Mr. William R. Stewart, Treasurer of the Committee, on its behalf, gave the key of the Arch to His Honor William L. Strong, Mayor of the City of New York.

V. Mayor Strong delivered the key to Mr. David H. King, Jr., President of the Department of Public Parks, which Department of the City Government thenceforward became responsible for the care of the monument.

VI. THE DEFILE OF THE TROOPS. Passing between the stands, the troops gave a marching salute to the Governor, and passed under the span of the Arch in the following order:

# THE NATIONAL GUARD.

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COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,

LEVI P. MORTON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE.

## STAFF.

Major-General Edwin Augustus McAlpin, Adjutant-General.

Brigadier-General Marshall Orlando Terry, Surgeon-General.

Brigadier-General Edmund Hayes, Chief of Engineers.

Brigadier-General Frederick Charles McLewee, Inspector-General.

Brigadier-General Benjamin Morris Whitlock, General Inspector of  
Rifle Practice.

Brigadier-General James M. Varnum, Paymaster-General.

Brigadier-General Benjamin Flagler, Chief of Ordnance.

Brigadier-General William Copeland Wallace, Judge-Advocate-General.

Brigadier-General Howard Carroll, Chief of Artillery.

Brigadier-General William Sherman Crawford Wiley, Quartermaster-  
General.

Brigadier-General Edward Charles O'Brien, Commissary-General of  
Subsistence.

Colonel Archibald Rogers, Aide-de-Camp.

Colonel Herbert Livingston Satterlee, Aide-de-Camp.

Colonel Charles Francis James, Aide-de-Camp.

Colonel John Jacob Astor, Aide-de-Camp.

Colonel George Bliss Agnew, Aide-de-Camp.

Colonel George Walter Turner, Aide-de-Camp.

Colonel Selden Erastus Marvin, Jr., Military Secretary.



## ESCORT TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Squadron "A," Major Charles F. Roe, Commanding.

BRIGADIER-GEN'L LOUIS FITZGERALD, Commanding the Brigade.

### STAFF.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen H. Olin, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Major C. Lawrence Perkins, Commissary of Subsistence.

Major Robert V. McKim, Surgeon.

Major Paul Dana, Ordnance Officer.

Major Auguste P. Montant, Inspector.

Major David Crocker, Inspector of Rifle Practice.

Major Henry Sayre Van Duzer, Judge Advocate.

Major Avery De Lano Andrews, Engineer.

Major Francis Randall Appleton, Quartermaster.

Captain William Emlen Roosevelt, Aide-de-Camp.

Captain Oliver Harriman, Jr., Aide-de-Camp.

Escort, Signal Corps, First Brigade.

### FIRST BRIGADE.

1. Ninth Regiment, . . . Colonel William Seward, Commanding.
2. Twenty-Second Regiment, . Colonel John T. Camp, Commanding.
3. Seventh Regiment, . . . Colonel Daniel Appleton, Commanding.
4. Twelfth Regiment, . . . Colonel Heman Dowd, Commanding.
5. Seventy-First Regiment, Colonel Francis V. Greene, Commanding.
6. Eighth Battalion, . . . Major Henry Chauncey, Commanding.
7. Sixty-Ninth Battalion, Lieut.-Col. Geo. Moore Smith, Commanding.
8. First Battery, . . . . Captain Louis Wendel, Commanding.
9. Second Battery, . . . . Captain David Wilson, Commanding.

### NAVAL RESERVE BATTALION.

Commander J. W. Miller, . . . . Commanding.

## TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY.

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### DEDICATION OF THE ARCH,

MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 1895.

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### THE CEREMONIES WITNESSED BY GREAT CROWDS OF PEOPLE.

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An Imposing Military Pageant Escorts the Governor Down Fifth Avenue to the Square—Speeches at the Arch by General Porter, Mr. Marquand and others—Mayor Strong's Tribute to Mr. Rhinelanders Stewart—Review of the Troops afterwards.

**M**ARCHING regiments and blaring bands, ringing speeches and cheering crowds, high officials and glittering escorts, the silent majesty of the superb structure to whose honor all these things were, and high above all the Stars and Stripes hanging in mid-air, looking as if blazoned on the sky—that is the story of the dedication of the Washington Arch.

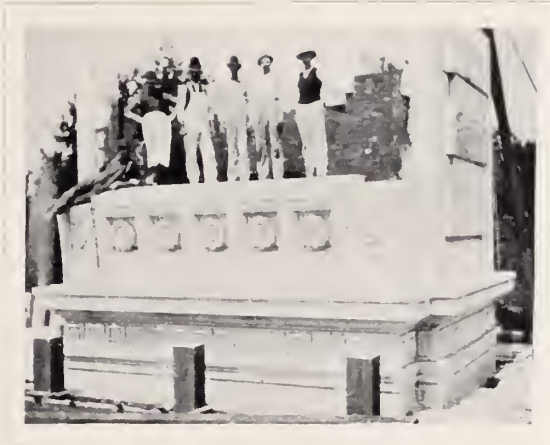
The magnificent spring weather brought the spectators out in limitless multitude, who filled Fifth Avenue and Washington Square, and the thoroughfares leading to it. The great amphitheatre formed by the stands that circled around the arch was one expanse of upturned faces during the delivery of the speeches. Every window and balcony and housetop on North Washington Square had its occupants. Even the tall

new office building on the old university site had its fringe of people overlooking the cornice from beneath which the carved motto "Perstando et Praestando Militate" contributed its share to the didactic influences of the day. Flags swung from every building. The grass and trees in the park had on their holiday tints of most vivid green, and the brilliancy of the costumes with which the fairer portion of the assemblage had decked themselves added to the gayety of the scene.

#### FORMING THE PARADE.

While the crowds at the square waited there was the bustle of preparation further up the avenue. With military promptness the regiments of the First Brigade were all in line by the appointed time, 2.30 o'clock. The white-coated Twenty-second Regiment was the last to march down from its armory in the Boulevard, with its magnificent band in full blare, and take its place in the line. Beginning at Fifty-first Street the order of formation was as follows, each regiment forming with its right on the street named:

Ninth Regiment, Fifty-first Street; Twenty-second Regiment, Fifty-fourth Street; Seventh Regiment, Fifty-seventh Street; Twelfth Regiment, Sixty-first Street; Seventy-first Regiment, Sixty-fourth Street; Sixty-ninth Battalion, Sixty-sixth Street; Eighth Battalion, Sixty-seventh Street; First Battery, Sixty-ninth Street; Second Battery, Seventieth Street; First Naval Battalion, Seventy-first street.



THE FIRST ROW OF SOFFITS.



TWO ROWS OF SOFFITS.



Before the arrival of the troops the Governor's Staff had ridden up from their quarters at the Waldorf, and, with Squadron A, had formed in Forty-third Street, opposite to the Hotel Renaissance. Promptly at 2.30 o'clock Governor Morton came out of the hotel and entered an open barouche provided for him. With him in the carriage was his military secretary, Colonel Selden E. Marvin. On the box with the coachman was a uniformed guard with drawn sword. Squadron A was out in force. The long column of troopers made an imposing showing. The antics of their horses afforded amusement to the crowds, but did not seem to interest the troopers. Followed by General Fitzgerald and Staff, who were escorted by the Signal Corps, the Governor rode along the line of troops to Seventy-second Street. The regimental bands greeted the reviewing party with "Hail to the Chief" as the cavalcade approached. When the Governor had passed each regiment moved from the west to the east side of the avenue and the reviewing party came down the avenue behind the lines.

Governor Morton, preceded by his special escort, Squadron A, and followed by the whole First Brigade, then rode down the avenue between crowds of cheering people to Washington Square, where the big turkey-red stands were full of waiting people, and 300 policemen were struggling with the multitudes on the pavements. On the stands, among others, were Mayor Strong, Bishop Potter, Mayor Schieren, of Brooklyn; President

King, of the new Park Board; General Horace Porter, W. De H. Washington, a collateral descendant of General Washington's family; Professor H. H. Boyesen, General Anson G. McCook, Park Commissioner Juilliard, Louis Windmuller, Colonel E. C. James, Lispenard Stewart, ex-Judge C. P. Daly, George A. Cocker, General Ferdinand P. Earle, Richard Watson Gilder, President Jeroloman, of the Board of Aldermen; E. L. Godkin, James A. Burden, ex-Senator Warner Miller and ex-Congressman Burleigh.

Many descendants of the soldiers whom Washington had commanded occupied seats upon the reviewing stand or took part in the ceremonies. General Horace Porter is President-General of the Sons of the American Revolution; Bishop Potter is Chaplain, and Mrs. Donald McLean Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Clarence W. Bowen, a Master of Ceremonies, is a Son of the Revolution, and Franklin Murphy, Secretary-General of the Sons of the American Revolution; and General Thomas Wilson, U. S. A.; John W. Scott, Chief Engineer Moore, U. S. N.; Walter S. Logan, Henry Hall, General Ferdinand P. Earle, Ira B. Stewart, A. J. C. Foyé, Edward H. Hall and other officers of the Sons of the American Revolution were present by invitation.

#### RECEIVING THE GOVERNOR.

The Arch Committee, decorated with their blue and gold badges, went down to receive the Governor



and escort him to his seat on the rostrum, built out from the centre of the western stand. Here he was welcomed by Henry G. Marquand, chairman of the committee, by Mayor Strong, and by General Miles, who had come over from Governor's Island with a dozen members of his Staff to witness the review. The Governor's Staff strung out along the front of the stand. An orderly followed with the flag of the State of New York and took his position on the right of the Governor, while an attendant from the Mayor's office stood at the left, behind His Honor, holding the white flag of the municipality aloft. High in the air, hanging by an invisible support from a line of six great kites, coupled in tandem, was a large American flag, flattened out in the strong south wind and bathed with the glory of the May sunshine. After the Mayor had proposed and led off three cheers for the Governor, Mr. Marquand arose and said that the ceremonies would begin with prayer by Bishop Potter.

#### THE INVOCATION OF BISHOP POTTER.

The Bishop, attired in full black robes, with velvet mortarboard and purple tassel, offered the following invocation, the spectators standing :

Almighty and everlasting God, the high and mighty ruler of the universe, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth, most heartily we beseech Thee to behold and bless these, Thy servants, now gathered before Thee, and the under-

taking which is here completed. We thank Thee that in the day of small things among this people Thou didst give to us the ruler and the man whom we have striven here to commemorate, and we bless Thy holy name for all the wonderful tokens of Thy grace and wisdom which Thou didst reveal in him.

Endow with the spirit of wisdom the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth, and all those whom we entrust in Thy name with the authority of governance, to the end that there be peace at home, that we keep our place among the nations of the world; that so from henceforth this memorial arch, spanning the highway over which the people pass, may proclaim to all men the nation's gratitude and homage to its founder, and recall to us that heavenly sufficiency overarching our lives in which we wrought and builded, and to which, as Thou, O Christ, hast taught us, we forever lift our prayer.

For his wisdom, courage, singleness of purpose, unselfishness and rare and singular foresight, we give Thee thanks to-day. For all that he taught us by his constancy to duty, his freedom from sordid aims and motives, his steadfast and resplendent patriotism, we bless and praise Thy name. Save us from the folly that honors his memory and forgets to imitate his example; and grant to this people over whom he was first of all chosen to rule, grace and courage to be true to the principles which he both taught and lived. And, O Almighty God, who in the former time

ledst our fathers forth into a wealthy place, and didst set their feet in a large room, give Thy grace to us, their children, that we may always approve ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning and pure manners. Defend our liberties preserve our unity. Save us from violence, discord and confusion, from pride and arrogance and from every evil way. Fashion into one happy people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues.

#### GENERAL PORTER'S ORATION.

After the Lord's Prayer had been recited, Mr. Marquand again rose and said: "We will now listen to the orator of the day, General Horace Porter." General Porter was warmly received, and his speech was punctuated with applause throughout. He said:

We are told by Feltham that "Beauty itself is such a silent orator that it is ever pleading for respect and liking." The beauty of this noble work which we assemble here to dedicate, with its massive form, its chaste lines and its graceful proportions, speaks so impressively for itself that there is little need of pleading in its praise by him who has been asked to address you. How thoroughly well the distinguished architect has accomplished the important task intrusted to him you who gaze upon his work to-day are able to judge. The metropolis of the Nation is to be heartily congratulated upon this conspicuous and meritorious

addition to the monuments which contribute to its embellishment. There is nothing which cultivates a more refined taste in a community than the public display of deserving artistic structures. They speak a universal language and impart a lasting pleasure to all. They appeal to our highest senses and awaken our noblest emotions. They induce the power of reflection and inspire us with the majesty of creative faculty.

And it is proper at this ceremony of dedication to refer to the earnest labors and untiring efforts of the members of the committee to whom this structure owes its existence, and especially to the good work of its most efficient treasurer, Mr. William Rhinelander Stewart.

But the true purpose of this work is not the display of architectural skill or the mere embellishment of a city; it is to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the inauguration of the Government under the blessings of which we live, and to perpetuate the memory of the exalted patriot who founded the Republic. The form of an arch was happily chosen. It is the symbol of cohesive strength and fitly typifies the union of inseparable States. The spotless marble of which it is composed is emblematic of the stainless purity of the character of the immortal leader whose name the structure bears. Washington impressed himself more profoundly on the civilized world than any man of his time, and to-day the beneficent influence of

his example is still potent throughout the globe. Daniel Webster well said "America has given to the world the character of Washington. If she had done nothing more, she would still be entitled to the gratitude of mankind." He has been wisely called "A first without a second," and "The greatest of good men—the best of great men." Enduring precepts, the memory of resplendent virtues, and matchless lessons in true manhood are the precious legacies he has bequeathed to his countrymen.

It seems a wise dispensation of Providence which deprived him of children of his own flesh and blood in order that all Americans may equally call him father. His early training appears to have been turned unconsciously into those channels which formed the best schools of instruction for both the camp and court in which his future career was to lead him, and when the weakest of colonies were to enter into a death struggle with the strongest of nations, and the arts of peace were to give place to the science of destruction, it was a priceless boon to the American patriots that there was a leader in their midst fully equipped for command, who brought to the high office of commander-in-chief a ripe judgment, a rare experience, a name which inspired universal confidence.

Some superficial critics have endeavored to convey the impression that, while he filled with eminent satisfaction all the trying positions in which he was placed, he was preëminent in none. This view is especially

unjust to him as a soldier. The consummate military skill which he displayed proved him a master of the art of war. He was an ideal leader of troops, one of the few commanders whose magnetic influence over men was equalled by the display of an unerring judgment in the field.

In his first engagement under Braddock we find him performing prodigies of valor. Two horses were killed under him, his clothes were pierced with four bullets, and he was the only mounted officer who escaped with his life. At Trenton we see him leading the principal column in that gallant attack. At Princeton he was again in the van of the battle, cheering on his exhausted troops to victory, and charging so close to the enemy's lines that his staff officers pulled their hats over their eyes in order that they might be spared the sight of their beloved chieftain's death. At Germantown we recall him as he rode under a withering fire, contending against superior numbers of the enemy and the mistakes of his subordinates. At Monmouth we behold him struggling in the heat of battle to counteract by his personal efforts the results of errors, imbecility and treachery.

Wherever the exigencies of battle demanded a personal sacrifice he was always generous of his life. Wherever blows fell thickest his crest was in their midst. A graceful horseman, a knightly cavalier, the magnetism of his presence turned routed squadrons into charging columns and snatched victory from defeat.





THE FRIEZE.



THE NORTH FRONT WITH PLASTER MODEL  
OF EAGLE IN PLACE.





If he had never conducted any campaign other than that in which he crossed the Delaware River with a half-fed, half-clothed, fragment of an army, out-marched, out-manoœuvred and out-fought the trained veterans of Europe, and completely turned the tide of war, he would have been entitled to stand in the front rank of the world's great captains. No less a soldier than the Great Frederick called the campaign for the rescue of the Jerseys "the most brilliant achievement of any recorded in the annals of military action."

In bringing to a successful termination that desperate and bloody contest of unequal warfare, Washington had displayed for eight long years the caution of a Fabius and the daring of a Hannibal. He had shown himself an Alexander without his lust of conquest, a Cæsar without his imperialism, a Marlborough without his lack of principle, a Napoleon without his ambition. Slow in deliberation, sure in decision, clear in foresight, heroic in action, neither elated by victory nor depressed by defeat—he had been both the sword and shield of the struggling Colonies, and from a sowing of the bitter seeds of war had reaped a harvest of perpetual peace. Washington's services now became no less important in council than in camp. He corresponded with the Governors of the States, and urged the formation of a stronger form of government with such cogency of reasoning and such irresistible logic that, owing largely to his exertions, there was finally brought together the memorable convention which

framed the present Constitution of the United States. Washington was made without dissent the presiding officer of that body, and brought to its deliberations such a wealth of statesmanlike knowledge that he could convince when others could not advise. He had studied every system of confederated government in the whole range of the world's experience, from the Lycian and Amphietyonic down to the Belgic and Germanic.

As all men foresaw, he was elected unanimously the first President of the United States, and, upon his inauguration, a new star was added to the firmament of nations. That memorable event in the world's history, which proclaimed that liberty and sound government were henceforth to be the birthright of the American citizen, was the occurrence which yonder arch so fitly commemorates. One hundred and six years ago in this city the lips of Washington were pressed upon the Holy Scriptures, and the hand which had hewn down oppression with the sword was uplifted in solemn oath to support the Constitution and execute the laws of the country his efforts had created. Washington had now reached the highest eminence of human distinction. His name was the most illustrious borne by living man. Re-elected unanimously to the same high office, he spent eight years in carrying into effect wholesome measures for placing the Government upon a basis so firm that it could not be dethroned from its supremacy.

As he ceased his official labors in behalf of his contemporaries, he began his true service to posterity,

for it was then that he penned that immortal farewell address which will prolong his term of service throughout all time.

The name of Washington has passed into history and the scroll on which his deeds are written is securely lodged in the highest niche in Fame's temple. The story of his life rises to the sublimity of an epic, the record of his acts is worthy the contemplation of the ages. Every preëminent leader in history stands for some prominent idea. While Washington will always be looked upon as the possessor of all the virtues which adorn the human character, he will stand forth most conspicuously as the embodiment of patriotism. With him patriotism was neither an impulse nor a lesson of reason, but a feeling engrafted upon his nature, a sentiment breathed into his nostrils at his very birth.

His physical, mental and moral qualities were in exceptional accord. In stature he was six feet and two inches, with well-developed limbs, a stately bearing and a commanding presence. It has been beautifully said of Stuart's lifelike portrait of him, that it is the "Noblest personification of wisdom and goodness reposing in the majesty of a serene countenance to be found on canvas." While confident in his own uprightness, and singularly self-reliant, his career was marked by devout reverence and true Christian humility. He attached men to him by the qualities of his heart as well as of his head. He was slow in choosing and in changing friends. His dignity always impressed; at times it

overawed. Said Fisher Ames: "He changed mankind's ideas of political greatness." His friends have sung pæans in his honor, and even the wrath of his enemies may be counted in his praise. We cannot better describe him than by repeating the words of Fox uttered in the House of Commons: "Illustrious man, before whom all borrowed greatness sinks into insignificance."

This noble arch will forever serve to perpetuate his name and to mark the birth of our present form of free and enlightened Government. The fact that it has been reared by the voluntary contributions of the people will give our citizens an individual interest in honoring it, in preserving it. The hallowed memorials which cluster about it will recall the heroic age of the Republic; it will point the path of loyalty to children yet unborn; its mute eloquence will plead for equal sacrifice should danger ever threaten the liberties of the Nation. When Washington was about to proceed to his first inauguration it was suggested to him that he should be escorted by a military guard. He replied: "I want no guard but the affections of the people." In the affections of the people his memory will be eternally enshrined.

#### MR. MARQUAND'S REMARKS.

At the conclusion of General Porter's address the chairman of the committee, Henry G. Marquand, spoke as follows :

It must give every good citizen of this metropolis great pleasure to hear of the finishing of this monument. The work has been a constant source of pleasure and profit. It has proved from the manner in which the funds have been raised that amid the excitements and drain incident to a busy commercial life thought can be given to history, art, and the rearing of enduring monuments, which become a necessity in all great cities. The building of this structure has been the outcome of thought and culture among the masses. The money was not raised among a few wealthy subscribers, but has come from widely different sources, and the interest has been general. It came from no sudden and deep impulse, such as the death of Washington would have produced had it occurred recently, but from calm and just appreciation of the immortal patriot. This lay at the root of the enterprise. It has shown, also, the popular desire for good architecture, and the arch becomes a lesson, teaching the great principles of art to consist in simplicity, beauty of form, adaptation to use and appropriateness of situation, and not in mere ornamentation solely.

We have announced the practical finishing of the work, but it is in many ways like the work of education. We may still make progress and go further on, and some thoughtful ones will in due time crown the monument with chaste and proper historic figures. Time will mellow and tone the now brilliant material. The contemplation of this arch will lead many to study the character of the man who lives so profoundly in our memory, and a century has only served to heighten the esteem which the world had for him.

Some three centuries since an Italian author sought to lay down rules of conduct which should guide a citizen of a republic, and his labors extended to several hundred pages of directions. A shorter formula we may proclaim in this new republic of ours, and that would be, Read the life and follow the example of George Washington.

Since every high-class work of beauty adds to the attraction and enhances the value of property, we may feel sure that our men of wealth will encourage the building of other arches and public works, and that our school of architecture and sculpture will yet rank high among the modern nations of the earth.

We are pleased to record the coöperation of the city authorities, without which this monument could not have been raised.

The key of the monument will now be handed to you, Mr. Mayor, by the treasurer, Mr. William R. Stewart, whose labors and activity have been so conspicuous.

#### FORMALLY TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY.

The ceremony of presenting the key of the arch to the city authorities was then gone through with. This duty fell on William Rhinelanders Stewart, the treasurer, and most active member of the committee.

#### MR. STEWART'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Stewart, addressing Mayor Strong, said:

Your Honor: In behalf of the Committee on the Erection of the Washington Arch, formed in 1889, it is my privilege to transfer to you, in your representative character as the Chief Magistrate of the City of New York, the beautiful civic monument which Stanford White's genius conceived, and the subscriptions of public-spirited fellow-citizens have enabled us to build. The structure, although substantially complete, still lacks for its embellishment two groups of statuary. The pedestals for these stand ready. The committee purposes continuing its organization until it shall have seen them filled.

Remembering that you yourself have been from the beginning an active member of the committee, we are the more pleased that the arch should pass to the city during your administration.

#### THE MAYOR'S REPLY.

In reply Mayor Strong said:

It is with glowing pride that I accept this key to-day from one of the brightest patriots of the present



time, William Rhinelanders Stewart, a man whom the whole city of New York, the present generation and perhaps succeeding generations will always remember, for the indomitable perseverance and untiring energy he displayed in raising the money necessary to complete this beautiful arch, which has been raised in commemoration of the first President of this country, and, as has been well said here, one of the brightest stars in the government of nations.

I was a member of the committee, but did nothing toward raising the money. It is, therefore, with peculiar pleasure that I pass to-day to the President of the Park Board of the City of New York, the key, knowing well that the interest he took in creating this beautiful arch will ever remind him of his duty, not only to guard carefully this structure, but to see that its surroundings will ever be kept in the purest and most beautiful manner, and in a way appropriate to the character of George Washington, whom it commemorates.

This speech was received with great enthusiasm.

The Mayor then handed the key to David H. King, Jr., of the Park Department. Mr. King received it with a few words expressive of his pleasure and desire to follow out the Mayor's instructions.

#### THE REVIEW.

Four o'clock was the hour when the Governor arrived. It was after five o'clock before the speeches were over and the ground cleared for the review. Headed by





THE NORTH FRONT, MAY 1892.



SOUTH FRONT, WORK BEGUN ON EAST  
TROPHY PANEL.



General Fitzgerald and Staff and his escort of Signal Corps troopers, the brigade moved down the avenue, company front, filling the street from curb to curb. General Fitzgerald and Staff wheeled to the west and took their position beneath the reviewing stand. At the head of the infantry came the Ninth Regiment Band, playing a spirited march, into every other bar of which they would interject a humorous shout of "Hurrah! Hurrah!" with great effect. As the band reached the open space before the arch it wheeled to the east, faced about and continued playing as the regiment swept by. When the last water carrier or member of the Ambulance Corps of each regiment had passed, its band stopped playing, and fell in behind the regiment. It was a pretty and stirring spectacle. The music of the bands was fine, and the marching of the men excellent. The white coats of the Twenty-second Regiment followed the blue uniforms of the Ninth Regiment. The Seventh came next with its usual accompaniment of rippling applause. The tall men of the Twelfth were followed by the easy swing of the veteran Seventy-first. The Sixty-ninth and the Eighth regiments brought up the rear, marching in their customary excellent form. After the troops of the line came Captain Wendel's artillery, and then the pale-faced sailor boys of the Naval Brigade swung by, with arms ported and machine guns jingling in the rear. They were loudly applauded. The new drum corps of the Reserve, composed of schoolboys, dressed in white duck suits, made its first appearance in the line on this occasion.

After the parade was over, Governor Morton drove back to the hotel with his escort, taking General Porter with him. The uniforms of the Governor's Staff were rich, but not more noticeable than those of the other officers for gorgeousness. The members of the Staff who rode behind the Governor's carriage were Adjutant-General McAlpin, Colonel Satterlee, Colonel Astor, Colonel Turner, General Hayes, General Whitlock, General Wallace, General Wiley, Major Burbank, Colonel Rogers, Colonel James, Colonel Agnew, General Terry, General McLewee, General Varnum, General Carroll and General Noyes.

# The Washington Arch Fund.

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Total, \$96,376.54.

Total Amount Subscribed,  
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1789.

1889.

1895.

*Admit the Bearer, on Tuesday, April 30, 1895,  
to the Grand Stand on Washington Square,*

*on the occasion of the*

*Dedication of the Washington Arch  
And its Transfer to the City Authorities*

*By the Committee organized in 1889 for the  
Erection of the Monument,*

*Admission at 2.30 p. m.*

*Ceremonies begin at 3.45 p. m.*

*THIS TICKET MUST BE GIVEN UP ON ENTERING THE STAND.*

FAC-SIMILE OF CARD OF ADMISSION TO GRAND STAND.















